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Vireo gundlachi <i>Lemb.</i>	Dendroica discolor ( <i>Vieill.</i> ).
Mniotilta varia ( <i>Linn.</i> ).	Seiurus aurocapillus ( <i>Linn.</i> ).
Compothlypis americana ( <i>Linn.</i> ).	Geothlypis trichas ( <i>Linn.</i> ).
Dendroica dominica ( <i>Linn.</i> ).	Teretistris fernandinæ ( <i>Lemb.</i> ).
Dendroica cærulescens ( <i>Gmel.</i> ).	Setophaga ruticilla ( <i>Linn.</i> ).
Dendroica palmarum ( <i>Gmel.</i> ).	Polioptila cærulea ( <i>Linn.</i> ).
Dendroica palmarum hypochrysea <i>Ridgw.</i>	Galeoscoptes carolinensis ( <i>Linn.</i> ).
	Mimocichla rubripes ( <i>Temm.</i> ).

While in Havana a bird was brought to me alive in a cage, which was claimed to have been caught by some boys about sixteen miles out in the country. It proved to be a rather peculiarly marked specimen of *Zonotrichia leucophrys*, three or four of the outer rectrices being white on one side and not on the other.

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## OBSERVATIONS ON THE BIRDS OF JAMAICA, WEST INDIES.

BY W. E. D. SCOTT.

### II. A LIST OF THE BIRDS RECORDED FROM THE ISLAND, WITH ANNOTATIONS.\*

(Continued from p. 129.)

124. *Crotophaga ani* *Linn.* ANI; SAVANNA BLACKBIRD; TICK-BIRD.—Common and very generally distributed in the region below one thousand feet above sea level. Above that altitude some occur, though the birds are not nearly so abundant. At Constant Springs, in the vicinity of Kingston, I saw many daily during two weeks stay at that point. I obtained a few individuals at Stony Hill, where the species was only seen a few times during the month I spent at that locality. At Boston and on the entire north side of the island at and near sea level the species was one of the most abundant and conspicuous. At Boston on December 25, 1890, I took a young bird (No. 9824, coll. W. E. D. S.), just able to fly, that was still in company with its parents and was being fed by them.

125. *Saurothera vetula*. (*Linn.*). RAIN-BIRD.—This bird seems, as far as I am aware, of rather rare occurrence. I met with only three individuals

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\* Mr. Taylor's valuable notes, though promised, have not come to hand for this instalment of this paper, but the author hopes to include them in the October or the January part, concluding this series of observations.

during my stay on the island, all in the vicinity of Boston. They are retiring in their habits, but quite tame, keeping to the deep woods and being much oftener heard than seen. Gosse, in his 'Birds of Jamaica,' pages 273-276, has given so full and detailed an account of this species that there seems little to add. He found it so common, while it is now apparently rather rare, that I conclude that this is one of the species that have suffered from the depredations of the mongoose.

126. *Coccyzus minor* (Gmel.). MANGROVE CUCKOO; BLACK-EARED CUCKOO; YOUNG OLD-MAN-BIRD.—Observed at Stony Hill on two occasions in December. A common and very generally distributed species in the vicinity of Priestman's River and Port Antonio, and probably at the lower altitudes throughout the island. Its habits, as I observed the birds in the neighborhood of Boston, where they were numerous, were similar to those of *Coccyzus americanus*.

127. *Coccyzus americanus* (Linn.). YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO; MAY BIRD.—Not observed during my stay on the island. But it was well known to the late Philip Henry Gosse, as a summer visitor, and in all probability it will be found to breed not uncommonly.

128. *Hyetornis plumialis* (Gmel.). OLD-MAN-BIRD; RAIN-BIRD.—Common resident, but met with only in unfrequented places. A series of ten individuals, collected in the vicinity of Priestman's River, does not show any considerable variation in color, though the females average a little more intense in color than the males, but there seems quite a marked difference in size between the sexes, the female being much the larger. The breeding season must vary considerably with different pairs of birds. A female taken on January 17, would have laid in four or five weeks, judging from the ovary. Another female, taken on the 22d of January, showed no indications of the approach of the breeding season. A pair taken on January 30 (Nos. 10,782 and 10,873, coll. W. E. D. S.), indicated on dissection that breeding would have begun in four weeks. A female taken February 3 showed no signs of breeding. On February 14 two males were procured, one of which appeared about to breed and the other showed no signs of the approach of the breeding season. A female taken on February 27 (No. 11,295, coll. W. E. D. S.) had laid a full set of eggs, and incubation was well advanced.

So far as I am aware, these birds are of solitary and retiring habits, frequenting the depths of the forests and rarely if ever appearing near habitations, or open or cultivated lands.

129. *Ceryle alcyon* (Linn.). BELTED KINGFISHER.—A common winter resident, seen daily in suitable localities from December to March.

130. *Todus viridis* Linn. GREEN TODY; 'ROBIN REDBREAST.'—These pretty and singular birds I found not uncommon at Stony Hill, at an altitude of 1200 to 1500 feet above the sea level. But at Boston and Priestman's River they were rare, becoming more common, however, as we reached an elevation exceeding 800 feet, in the mountains and foothills back of these localities. Their habits are not unlike those of our smaller Flycatchers of the genus *Empidonax*, but now and then they hunt insects

in the trees and bushes much as do our Warblers (*Mniotiltidæ*). The birds, so far as I am aware, are insect eaters, and I found no vegetable remains in those dissected. Their breeding habits are too well known to be more than commented on. The shallow burrows, rarely exceeding a foot in depth, in which the eggs are laid, are easily robbed by the mongoose, and the birds are said to be by no means as common as in former years. They are said to nest from late March until June. Birds taken early in February, though paired, did not show signs of breeding. The iris in these birds is of a peculiar grayish white shade, and almost identical in color with the eyes of *Vireo modestus*.

131. *Todus pulcherrimus* Sharpe. SHARPE'S TODY.—The type of this recently described species is in the British Museum, and the habitat is given as "Jamaica." It is very different from all other species of the genus, "by its brilliant coloration below, and by its being bluish green above."

132. *Sphyrapicus varius* (Linn.). YELLOW-BELLIED WOODPECKER.—A rather common winter resident on the island, at all points which I visited.

133. *Centurus radiolatus* (Wagl.). RADIOLATED WOODPECKER.—A common species on the island, but apparently much more common in the less settled portions. They were apparently rare at Stony Hill, where I obtained but a single bird and saw no others. But in the hills back of Priestman's River and Boston they were common, and were met with almost daily. In habits they closely resemble the North American representatives of the genus. The birds were mated during the latter part of my stay at Boston, but up to the time of my departure showed no signs of breeding.

134. *Nyctibius jamaicensis* (Gmel.). POTOO.—Not observed at Kingston, or in the vicinity, nor at Stony Hill. But at Boston five individuals were secured during my stay. A male taken on January 14, 1891, and a female secured later on the same day (Nos. 10,331 and 10,359, coll. W. E. D. S.), indicated on dissection the near approach of the breeding season. On the 25th of January a female was secured. This bird was taken in the bright moonlight. It was sitting on a branch of a dead tree, not longitudinally, but crosswise. My attention was attracted to it by its note, a guttural *ch-r-r*, that was answered by its mate near by. The note was not at all loud or prolonged, and could be heard only a very short distance. Two other individuals were procured during February. In the daytime they sit crosswise, so far as I observed, on the large limb of some good-sized tree, and where the shade is constant and the light dim. A large, low, spreading mango seems frequently selected as a day roost, and the same place is used for many days, the excrement on the ground often drawing attention to the otherwise almost indistinguishable bird. For they are very tame at all times, and do not seem at all alarmed at the approach of man.

The large eyes, with the deep orange irides, remind one strongly, both by their color and shape, of Owls' eyes, and are not at all like those of any North American Whippoorwill or Nighthawk.

135. *Nyctibius pallidus* Gosse. WHITE-HEADED POTOO.—This species was described by Gosse "from Robinson's MSS, who has given an elaborately colored figure of the species in his drawings." Gosse did not meet with a representative but concluded from facts furnished by Mr. Hill and others that there was a 'White Potoo.' I refer the reader to Gosse's 'Birds of Jamaica,' pp. 49-51. The natives at Boston were familiar with a bird called the White Potoo, which was the Barn Owl of the region (*Strix flammeola furcata*), and whenever I asked on the island about the 'White Potoo,' the Barn Owl was described to me. I concluded that probably Mr. Robinson's specimen referred to and described by Gosse was some abnormal phase of plumage of *N. jamaicensis*, an albinistic or pied individual, very likely.

136. *Antrostomus carolinensis* (Gmel.). CHUCK-WILL'S-WIDOW.—Probably a migrant and winter resident. I took three individuals at Boston in February. I did not hear the song of the species while in Jamaica, and it is apparently unknown to the residents of the island.

137. *Siphonorhis americanus* (Linn.).—I did not meet with this species, but saw a single specimen in the collection of the Jamaica Institute. It is apparently a very rare bird in the parts of the island where my collections were made.

138. *Chordeiles minor* Cab. CUBAN NIGHTHAWK.—Common migrant and summer resident. Arrives in April and leaves late in September and in October. I did not meet with the bird.

139. *Chordeiles virginianus* (Gmel.).—It seems probable that another species of Nighthawk is a migrant, passing through Jamaica in spring and fall, and I remark it here to draw to it the particular attention of future observers. While I have alluded to this under the head of *C. virginianus*, it seems more probable that *C. virginianus chapmani* may be found to be the race represented as a migrant in the fauna of Jamaica.

140. *Cypselus phœnicobius* (Gosse.). PALM SWIFT.—A common resident in Kingston and the vicinity. Also noted daily at Stony Hill. But during the two months and more of work at Boston, Priestman's River, and Port Antonio I did not see this species on a single occasion. Nor did the people about seem to know of a "Swallow that bred in the cocoanut or other palms." For a detailed account of the habits of this Swift the reader is referred to Gosse's 'Birds of Jamaica,' pp. 58-63.

141. *Cypseloides niger* (Gmel.). BLACK SWIFT.—I did not observe this species at any point where I worked while in Jamaica, but saw three specimens in the collection of the Jamaica Institute. It does not seem probable that the birds are resident or that they breed on the island, but rather that they occur as migrants.

142. *Hemiprocne zonaris* (Shaw). WHITE-COLLARED SWIFT; RINGED GOWRIE.—A common resident species. Seen at all points visited on the island, and frequently in great numbers. Generally they fly very high and are much out of gunshot, but I saw them several times just before sundown or early in the morning flying very low over the pastures and

cultivated fields in enormous flocks. Their flight is much like that of other representatives of the family and not, so far as I could judge, appreciably faster. The difficulty in procuring specimens arises from their habitually very *high* flight. I was unable to learn anything with regard to the time or place of their breeding.

143. *Mellisuga minima* (Linn.). Vervain Hummingbird.—Common resident at all points visited on the island, particularly in the vicinity of Kingston. It was noticed daily at Stony Hill, and often seen at Boston, though not so commonly as at other points. This seems to be more a species of the open country than either of the others found on the island, and also more fond of low-growing flowering plants. In habits it is much like our *Trochilus colubris*. Gosse has given a very detailed account of its breeding habits (Birds of Jamaica, pp. 130-134).

145. *Aithurus polytmus* (Linn.). Long-tailed Hummingbird; Doctor-bird.—The commonest Hummingbird of the island; very abundant and generally distributed, though perhaps preferring the region 1000 feet in altitude above the sea.

This is one of the species so carefully and fully studied and written of by the late Philip Henry Gosse, that the reader is referred directly to that author (Birds of Jamaica, pp. 97-127).

In the series collected I have specimens of male birds whose two long outside tail feathers are 7.90 inches in length.

146. *Lampornis mango* (Linn.). Mango Hummingbird; Doctor-bird.—Not so common as either of the other two. At Stony Hill where these birds were commoner than at any other points visited, they seemed particularly to like the flowers of the banana. At Boston, Priestman's River, and Port Antonio I saw this bird on only a few occasions. At Boston during two months but two birds were obtained. I was unable to learn anything of its breeding habits.

(To be continued.)

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## RECENT LITERATURE.

**Salvadori's Catalogue of the Parrots.\***—While doubtless Professor Salvadori has had before him for examination the largest collection of Parrots existing in any museum, he considers this material inadequate "for affording a solid base to a general classification of Parrots, or fully illustrating the different stages of many of the species." the deficiencies relating more

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\* Catalogue of the Psittaci, or Parrots, in the Collection of the British Museum. | By | T. Salvadori. | London: | Printed by order of the Trustees. | . . . [= 6 lines, names of booksellers] | 1891.—8vo, pp. xvii, 658, and pl. 18.—Forming Vol. XX of the Catalogue of the Birds of the British Museum.